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DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO RUESXBQ/AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY PRIORITY 5392
RUFHAU/AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY Ø673
RUESHL/AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY 3589
INFO RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY PRIORITY 3956
RUFHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY Ø710

53791

SALT

SUBJECT: LOCALE FOR PHASE II OF SALT

CONFIDENT IAL STATE 146718

REF: A. STATE 146081

B. HELSINKI 01240

1. SUBSEQUENT TO CONVERSATION MENTIONED REFTEL A, SOVIET DCM VOR ONTSOV CALLED TO REPORT FOLLOWING SOVIET POSITION:

A. SOVIETS AGREE PARALLEL U.S. AND SOVIET APPROACHES

SHOULD BE MADE TO FINNISH AND AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENTS.

B. SUBSTANCE OF SOVIET APPROACH WOULD BE THAT THEY ARE MOST THANKFUL FOR FACILITIES AND HOSPITALITY PROVIDED BY FINNISH AND AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENTS; FIRST PHASE OF SALT NEGOTIATIONS HAVE NOW CONCLUDED SUCCESSFULLY WITH TWO AGREEMENTS; SOVIET AND U.S. GOVERNMENTS HAVE NOW AGREED THAT THE SECOND PHASE OF SALT SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN A SINGLE PERMANENT LOCATION, FOR WHICH GENEVA HAS BEEN AGREED; AND THE REASON FOR CHANGING LOCALE IS ESC EXCLUSIVELY THE PRACTICAL CONSIDERATION OF THE COST O AND ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN OF ROTATING BETWEEN TWO SITES.

C. THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT DOES NOT PLAN TO MAKE ANY ANN OUNCEMENT AT THIS TIME BUT WILL WAIT TO ANNOUNCE THE CHANGE IN PLACE AT THE SAME TIME THAT THE DATE FOR RECONVENING SALT IS DECIDED AND ANN QUINCED. VOR ONT SOV AGREED THAT THE SOVIETS DID NOT OBJECT TO THE U.S.

State Dept. declassification & release instructions on file

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PROCEEDING WITH ITS ANNOUNCEMENT. WE NOTED THAT THE SWISS INTENDED TO MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT AT THE SAME TIME THAT WE DO.

- 2. EMBASSIES BERN AND HELSINKI SHOULD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 14, GET IN TOUCH WITH THE IR SOVIET COUNTER PARTS AND CONCERT REGARDING PARALLEL APPROACHES TO THE HOST GOVERNMENTS THAT MORNING OR AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE MONDAY. SUBSTANCE OF SOVIET APPROACH IS CONSISTENT WITH U.S. TALKING POINTS AS SET FORTH PARA. 2 OF STATE 143534. EMBASSY VIENNA SHOULD WITH REGARD TO TALKING POINT E REQUEST THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT TO HOLD OPEN THE POSSIBILITY OF ONE MORE SESSION IN VIENNA, IF NECESSARY, UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.
- 3. WE WILL NOTIFY FINNISH AND AUSTRIAN EMBASSIES HERE MONDAY MORNING. PRESS STATEMENT AS CONTAINED IN STATE 144344 AND MODIFIED IN ACCORDANCE WITH BERN 2192 WILL BE ISSUED AT THE REGULAR STATE DEPARTMENT NOON PRESS BRIEFING AT 12:00 NOON MONDAY, AUGUST 14. EMBASSY BERN SHOULD SO ADVISE SWISS.

CDS ROGERS BT #6718